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<p align="center">REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL</p> <p>Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provided for continued examination of a utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995. See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).</p>	<i>Application Number</i>	09/334,424
	<i>Filing Date</i>	June 16, 1999
	<i>First Named Inventor</i>	Yasutomo Nishina
	<i>Group Art Unit</i>	2611
	<i>Examiner Name</i>	Jason P. Salce
	<i>Attorney Docket Number</i>	450100-4916

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. **Submission required under CFR 1.114.**

a. Previously submitted

i. Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR 1.116 previously filed on February 7, 2005.
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered)

ii. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____

iii. Other _____

b. Enclosed

i. Amendment/Reply

ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)

iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)

iv. Other _____

2. **Miscellaneous**

a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(I) required)

b. Other _____

3. **Fees** The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees, or credit any overpayments, to **Deposit Account No. 50-0320.**

b. Check in the amount of **\$790.00** is enclosed for the following:

i. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)	03/18/2005	MAHHE1	00000095	09334424
ii. <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)	01	FC:1801		790.00 OP
iii. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____				

c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Thomas F. Presson	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	41,442
Signature	<i>Thomas F. Presson</i>	Date	March 16, 2005

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated below and is addressed to: **Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Name (Print/Type)	Adam N. Mead
Signature	<i>Adam N. Mead</i>
Date:	March 16, 2005
"Express Mail" mailing label number: EV 384277244 US	